

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 /127 W

-----181254Z 098750 /53

R 180150Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6230

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 3798

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN-USSR FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS

1. SUMMARY: OPENING POSITION OF USSR AT FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY IN TOKYO AND MOSCOW SUGGESTS SEVERE RESTRICTIONS WILL BE PLACED ON JAPANESE FISHING WITHIN THE SOVIET 200-MILE ZONE. THE JAPANESE PRESS IS REPORTING THAT THE QUOTA WILL BE 600,000 MT, A REDUCTION OF 60 PERCENT FROM THE CATCH IN 1975. USSR APPARENTLY DEMANDING THAT "AN EQUAL QUOTA" BE PROVIDED THEM IN THE JAPAN 200- MILE ZONE WHEN ESTABLISHED.

2. ACCORDING TO THE JAPANESE PRESS, AT THE BILATERAL MEETINGS UNDERWAY IN MOSCOW TO DEVELOP A PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT FOR JAPANESE FISHING, THE USSR INFORMED THE GOJ THAT JAPANESE FISHERIES WITHIN THE SOVIET 200-MILE ZONE WOULD BE LIMITED TO 600,000 MT CONSISTING OF GROUND FISH SUCH AS POLLOCK, FLOUNDERS AND SQUID. IN RETURN, THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILL DEMAND "AN EQUAL QUOTA"

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CATCH OF 600,000 MT WITHIN THE JAPANESE 200-MILE ZONE WHEN IT IS ESTABLISHED. SINCE THE JAPANESE CATCH WITHIN THE SOVIET 200-MILE ZONE WAS 1.4 MILLION METRIC TONS IN 1975, THIS IS A REDUCTION OF NEARLY 60 PERCENT IN THE JAPANESE CATCH. THE SOVIET CATCH WITHIN THE 200-MILE ZONE OF JAPAN IS REPORTED TO BE 300,000 TO 400,000 MT.

3. JAPAN-USSR COMMISSION NEGOTIATIONS ON SALMON AND HERRING COMMENCED 15 MARCH IN TOKYO. FISHATT ATTENDED AS OBSERVER, AS HAS BEEN CUSTOMARY IN THE PAST, ON INVITATION OF GOJ AND CONCURRENCE OF SOVIET CHIEF DELEGATE NIKONOROV AND WILL BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND ALL OPEN SESSIONS UNTIL CLOSE OF MEETING. THOUGH USSR HAS NOW AGREED TO DISCUSS SALMON AND HERRING FISHERIES WITHIN THE 200-MILE ZONE, THE GOJ IS PESSIMISTIC THAT QUOTA WILL BE OBTAINED. SALMON CATCH WAS APPROXIMATELY 17,000 TONS IN 1976 AND HERRING CATCH 22,000. NIKONOROV TOLD FISHATT AT RECEPTION THAT USSR VERY STRONGLY AFFECTED BY 200-MILE ZONE AROUND THE WORLD. ACCOMPANYING SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIAL ESTIMATED THAT CLOSE TO 60 PERCENT OF SOVIET CATCH IS IN 200-MILE ZONES OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

4. THE ISSUE OF THE DISPUTED NORTHERN ISLANDS APPARENTLY HAS NOT BEEN RAISED AS YET AT EITHER OF THE MEETINGS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO03798
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770093-0501
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770343/aaaablms.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 37a35cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3060871
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPAN-USSR FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: EFIS, JA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/37a35cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009